

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

SAJ-01 IO-11 /072 W

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R 121218Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5579

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 00476

PASS TO USIA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: GW, PINR

SUBJECT: FRG-SPONSORED OPINION POLL

REF: BONN 20731, DEC. 23, 1975

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED ADDITIONAL RESULTS OF THE SURVEY CONTRACTED BY THE FRG WITH THE ALLENSBACH POLLING INSTITUTE AS REPORTED IN REFTEL. ANSWERS TO THREE DIFFERENT QUESTIONS POSED TO A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLING OF 2,000 WEST GERMANS AND WEST BERLINERS IN AUGUST-OCTOBER 1975 REVEAL THAT THE U.S. CONTINUES TO BE HELD IN HIGH RESPECT BY A MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION.

2. TO THE QUESTION WHETHER A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S. WAS MORE IMPORTANT THAN A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH RUSSIA, 52 PERCENT REPLIED IN FAVOR OF THE U.S., 12 PERCENT FOR RUSSIA, AND 36 PERCENT UNDECIDED. THIS COMPARES WITH PREVIOUS READINGS OF 62 PERCENT (1954) AND 61 PERCENT (1957) IN FAVOR OF THE U.S., 10 PERCENT (1954) AND 6 PERCENT (1957) IN FAVOR OF RUSSIA, AND 28 PERCENT (1954) AND 33 PERCENT (1957) UNDECIDED. AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY CONTINUES TO FAVOR THE U.S.

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3. REPLIES TO A SECOND QUESTION REVEAL THAT THE

MAJORITY OF THOSE INTERVIEWED SEE NO CHANGE IN THE RECENT U.S.-FRG RELATIONSHIP, WHILE A SOMEWHAT LARGER MINORITY THAN WAS THE CASE IN MARCH, 1973 BELIEVE THAT THIS RELATIONSHIP HAS IMPROVED RECENTLY. THE BREAKDOWN RESPONSE TO THIS QUESTION WAS:

	1973	1975
	PERCENT	PERCENT
IMPROVED	10	17
WORSENERD	27	12
NO CHANGE	50	59
UNDECIDED	13	12
TOTAL	100	100

4. THE U.S. FARED PARTICULARLY WELL IN THE RESPONSE TO A THIRD QUESTION "...WITH WHICH OF THESE COUNTRIES SHOULD WE COOPERATE AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE ("MOEGLICHTST ENG ZUSAMMENARBEITEN")?" SEVENTY NINE PERCENT LISTED THE U.S., WHICH THUS TOPPED THE LIST. THIS COMPARED WITH 78 PERCENT IN 1954, 90 PERCENT IN 1963, 73 PERCENT IN 1967, AND 86 PERCENT LAST YEAR.

5. ENGLAND, WHICH RECEIVED 58 PERCENT IN 1954 AND WAS THEN IN SECOND PLACE, DROPPED A NOTCH TO THIRD WITH A 47 PERCENT RESPONSE. FRANCE, WITH 46 PERCENT IN 1967, IS NOW IN SECOND PLACE WITH A 63 PERCENT RESPONSE.

6. OTHER REACTIONS TO THIS THIRD QUESTION INCLUDE:

-- SPAIN HAS DROPPED STEADILY FROM 42 PERCENT IN 1954 TO 16 PERCENT;

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5580

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 00476

-- JAPAN REMAINS AT 35 PERCENT IN COMBARISON WITH
1954;

-- ITALY HAS FALLEN FROM 34 (1954) TO 24 PERCENT;

-- RUSSIA, WHICH STARTED WITH 22 PERCENT IN 1954
AND REACHED A HIGH OF 52 PERCENT IN 1970, HAS NOW
DROPPED BACK TO 38 PERCENT;

-- ISRAEL WITH A HIGH OF 28 PERCENT IN 1974 IS NOW
AT 19 PERCENT;

-- POLAND, WITH 11 PERCENT IN 1954 AND A HIGH OF
35 PERCENT IN 1970, IS NOW AT 21 PERCENT;

-- PORTUGAL IS FOR THE FIRST TIME LISTED WITH 6
PERCENT.

6. THE EMBASSY WOULD AGAIN LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE
FACTS OF THIS PRIVATE GOVERNMENT-COMMISSIONED POLL AND
ITS RESULTS WILL NOT BE MADE PUBLIC AND THEREFORE MUST
BE TREATED ON A CLASSIFIED BASIS.

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